

AC 439(3)

*1. H. H. and S. S.*  
*2. Library*

URBAN DISTRICT OF SUNBURY-ON-THAMES.



*Shilline*

# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND THE

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR

1958.



*B*



**Sunbury-on-Thames Urban District Council**



WITH THE COMPLIMENTS OF THE  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

COUNCIL OFFICES

SUNBURY-ON-THAMES.

TELEPHONE SUNBURY 530/1 & 2209



Digitized by the Internet Archive  
in 2018 with funding from  
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b30146872>

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE 1958

Chairman

Councillor R. Jelfs.

Vice-Chairman

Councillor Mrs. S. M. Collins.

Councillors

Councillors Mrs. G. V. Bishop, A. W. Edwards, R. L. Lee, A. S. Lock, J. V. McEvoy, Mrs. J. V. Neate, A. V. Nicholas, and the Chairman of the Council, Councillor A. Schaffer, J.P. (ex-officio).

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health

R. Arnallt Jones, B.Sc., M.B., B.Ch., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector

C. W. Wood, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector

T. A. Teal, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspector

C. Willard, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I. (Resigned 30.6.58).

K. F. Keegan, M.A.P.H.I. (Appointed 25.8.58)

Clerks

B. S. Bedborough.

Mrs. A. K. Webber. (Part-time: from 12.8.58)

Rodent Operative

G. D. Chapman.



Public Health Department,  
Council Offices,  
Sunbury-on-Thames.  
July, 1959.

Telephone: Sunbury-on-Thames 530.

To the Chairman and Members of the  
Sunbury-on-Thames Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour of submitting my Annual Report for the year 1958.

In comparison with 1957 fewer births were registered. Nevertheless for the second year in succession the birth-rate was the highest in the County.

Deaths exceeded in number those of the previous year. 43 per cent occurred in persons over 75 years of age. There were 8 deaths in infancy. Of the 16 deaths in the group aged 1 - 4½ years 7 were due to accident.

Notifiable infections were less prevalent than in 1957, as a consequence, mainly, of the considerable reduction in the incidence of measles. The numbers of cases notified were Measles 112; Scarlet Fever 14; Whooping Cough 6; Dysentery (Sonae) 5; Encephalitis (post-infectious) 4; Erysipelas 1; Food Poisoning (Salmonella typhi-murium) 1; Meningococcal Infection 1; Pneumonia 1; Tuberculosis 16.

Food Poisoning is likely to be more common than the record indicates and it is probable that persons mildly affected do not seek medical attention. On the other hand refrigeration and improved methods of storing and handling foodstuffs in the shops and at home must be contributing to some extent towards a reduction in its incidence.

A child died of paralytic poliomyelitis. He had not received protective inoculation. This case was notified in 1957.

There have been no cases of diphtheria in the District since 1944. In order to maintain this situation all children should be immunized in infancy and given booster doses subsequently at 5 and 11 years of age.

Immunizations and vaccinations are carried out at Local Health Authority clinics and by family doctors. Statistics supplied to me by the Area Medical Officer indicate that 468 persons received primary vaccination against small-pox; 549 children under 15 years of age completed a course of primary immunization against diphtheria; children of the same age group completing a similar course against whooping cough number 486; another 485 received booster doses against diphtheria; approximately 5,000 persons received their first two injections against poliomyelitis and all those due for a third injection received appointments.

For a period of twelve months from May, 1958, this Department collaborated with the Central Public Health Laboratory at Colindale and the Area Health Department in a survey of the incidence of intestinal carriers of polio virus among selected groups of children under 5 years of age. For this purpose your Public Health Inspectors have made over 250 visits to homes and collected 106 samples. The co-operation of the parents has been much appreciated.

An elderly woman was admitted to a Home on a Justice's Order made under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act, 1948, (and National Assistance (Amendment) Act, 1951). She was old and infirm, very feeble and partially blind. Though able to move about she was unable to look after herself and was continually exposed to risk from burns and scalds. Her home was in a very neglected condition. The case was originally brought to the notice of this Department in 1956 but it was felt that action should be deferred. Though these powers are seldom used, occasions sometimes arise when it becomes essential to take steps to prevent incapacitated persons from living and dying in squalid surrounding where they lack adequate care and are exposed to the risk of accident from falls, burns and scalds. Kind neighbours and Home Helps render valuable assistance to these cases but it is often impracticable to give the constant care needed and their task is not made easier by the fact that this type of case, in the experience of this Department, is independent, critical, suspicious and unco-operative.

This is the third instance of action being taken under these Acts. On each occasion the National Assistance (Amendment) Act, 1951, was applied. The two previous cases were very elderly women: both were admitted to Hospital - one in 1954 and the other in 1956.

In accordance with the five-year programme unfit dwellings have been listed, inspected and represented and closure or demolition Orders made by the Council. One Clearance Area has been declared. In many instances, however, it has not yet been possible to serve the Orders because of the present lack of suitable alternative accommodation for the affected families.

In concluding I thank all the members of the Public Health Department for their assistance in preparing this report.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

R. ARNALLT JONES.

Medical Officer of Health.



SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS RELATING TO  
THE URBAN DISTRICT OF SUNBURY-ON-THAMES.

<u>Area in acres:</u>	...	5,609	<u>Population</u> (estimated by the Registrar General for mid-year 1958)	28,440
-----------------------	-----	-------	--	--------

<u>Rateable Value:</u>	...	£517,176	<u>Product of a 1d Rate</u>	...	£2,182
------------------------	-----	----------	-----------------------------	-----	--------

\*\*\*\*\*

					<u>Sunbury- on-Thames</u>	<u>England &amp; Wales*</u>
Live births	...	...	...	...	557	739,336
Live birth rate per 1,000 population	...	...	...	(a)	19.6	16.4
				(b)	17.6	-
Still-births	...	...	...	...	8	16,309
Total live and still-births	...	...	...	...	565	755,645
Still-birth rate per 1,000 live and still-births	...	...	...	...	14.1	21.6
Illegitimate live births	...	...	...	...	14	
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	...	...	...	...	2.5	

\*\*\*\*\*

Deaths	...	...	...	...	299	526,849
Death rate per 1,000 population	...	...	...	(a)	10.5	11.7
				(b)	11.9	-
Infant deaths	...	...	...	...	8	16,684
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 total live births	...	...	...	...	14.4	22.6
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	...	...	14.5	
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	...	...	Nil	
Neonatal mortality rate per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	5.4	16.2
Maternal deaths (including abortion)	...	...	...	...	Nil	
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live and still-births	...	...	...	...	Nil	

\*\*\*\*\*

Chief causes of death:

Diseases of the heart and blood vessels	...	156
Malignant new growths	...	58
Pneumonia and bronchitis	...	25

\*\*\*\*\*

(a) Crude Rate	(b) Adjusted Rate	* Provisional
----------------	-------------------	---------------

Comparability Factors

Births: 0.90

Deaths: 1.13



# VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1958

## Live Births

				<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	...	...	...	288	255	543
Illegitimate	...	...	...	9	5	14
				<u>297</u>	<u>260</u>	<u>557</u>

Crude birth rate per 1,000 of the population	...	19.6
Adjusted birth rate per 1,000 of the population	...	17.6
Birth rate per 1,000 population (England and Wales)	...	16.4

## Live Births 1954 - 1958

Year	Sunbury-on-Thames			England and Wales
	Live births	Crude rate per 1,000 population	Adjusted rate per 1,000 population	Rate per 1,000 population
1954	461	18.8	17.6	15.2
1955	453	17.8	16.7	15.0
1956	523	19.6	17.8	15.7
1957	619	22.4	20.4	16.1
1958	557	19.6	17.6	16.4

## Stillbirths

				<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	...	...	...	3	5	8
Illegitimate	...	...	...	-	-	-

Still-birth rate per 1,000 total  
live and still-births - 14.1  
(England and Wales - 21.6)

# Deaths of Infants under One Year of Age

		<u>Legitimate</u>	<u>Illegitimate</u>	<u>Total</u>
Males	...	1	-	1
Females	...	7	-	7

Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births - 14.4

(England and Wales - 22.6)

Infant deaths are analysed in the following table and it is shown that 3 occurred in the first day of life.

Causes	Ages					
	Under 1 day	1 - 6 days	7 - 14 days	15 - 20 days	21 - 28 days	1 - 12 months
Prematurity	1					
Congenital malformations	1					2
Intrapulmonary haemorrhage	1					
Tracheo- bronchitis						1
Tuberculosis						1
Pneumonia						1

## Infant Mortality 1954 - 1958

Year	Sunbury-on-Thames			England & Wales
	Live Births	Deaths under 1 year	Rate per 1,000 live births	Rate per 1,000 live births
1954	461	6	13.0	25.5 (a)
1955	453	9	19.9	24.9 (a)
1956	523	10	19.1	23.8 (a)
1957	619	12	19.4	23.0
1958	565	8	14.4	22.6

(a) Per 1,000 related live births.

Deaths (all ages)

<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
138	161	299

Crude death rate per 1,000 of the population	...	10.5
Adjusted death rate per 1,000 of the population	...	11.9
Death rate per 1,000 of the population (England and Wales)	...	11.7

Deaths 1954 - 1958

Year	Deaths	Sunbury-on-Thames		England and Wales
		Crude rate per 1,000 population	Adjusted rate per 1,000 population	Rate per 1,000 population
1954	221	9.0	10.08	11.3
1955	205	8.1	9.1	11.7
1956	204	7.6	9.6	11.7
1957	254	9.2	11.9	11.5
1958	299	10.5	11.9	11.7

Explanatory Note:

Adjusted Rates: When comparing the rate of one district with that of another allowances should be made for the age and sex distribution of the population and an adjusted rate obtained which is the product of the crude rate and the comparability factor.

Comparability factors for the District  
(Calculated by the Registrar-General)

Births: 0.90 - Deaths: 1.13



CAUSES OF DEATH - REGISTRAR-GENERAL'S  
OFFICIAL RETURN FOR THE YEAR 1958.

		Males	Females	Total
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory ...	2	2	4
2.	Tuberculosis, other ...	-	-	-
3.	Syphilitic disease ...	-	-	-
4.	Diphtheria ...	-	-	-
5.	Whooping cough ...	-	-	-
6.	Meningococcal infections ...	-	-	-
7.	Acute poliomyelitis ...	1	-	1
8.	Measles ...	-	-	-
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	-	-
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach ...	4	3	7
11.	do. lung, bronchus ...	9	4	13
12.	do. breast ...	-	4	4
13.	do. uterus ...	-	2	2
14.	Other malignant & lymphatic diseases	24	8	32
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia ...	-	-	-
16.	Diabetes ...	1	-	1
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system	12	28	40
18.	Coronary disease, angina ...	32	26	58
19.	Hypertension with heart disease ...	4	3	7
20.	Other heart disease ...	10	29	39
21.	Other circulatory disease ...	6	6	12
22.	Influenza ...	-	2	2
23.	Pneumonia ...	6	6	12
24.	Bronchitis ...	5	8	13
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system	1	-	1
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...	2	1	3
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	-	-
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis ...	1	2	3
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate ...	3	-	3
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth and abortion	-	-	-
31.	Congenital malformations ...	2	2	4
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	7	13	20
33.	Motor vehicle accidents ...	1	2	3
34.	All other accidents ...	4	9	13
35.	Suicide ...	1	1	2
36.	Homicide and operations of war ...	-	-	-
ALL CAUSES		138	161	299

## CAUSES OF DEATH BY AGE GROUPS

Causes	Age in years					
	Under 1 yr.	1-4	5-14	15-44	45-64	65 & over
Tuberculosis, respiratory	1				1	2
Acute poliomyelitis		1				
Malignant neoplasm, stomach					3	4
Malignant neoplasm, lung and bronchus				1	7	5
Malignant neoplasm, breast					1	3
Malignant neoplasm, uterus					1	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms		1	1	3	9	18
Diabetes						1
Vascular lesions of nervous system					9	31
Coronary disease, angina					13	45
Hypertension with heart disease					3	4
Other heart disease				1	3	35
Other circulatory disease					1	11
Influenza						2
Pneumonia	1				3	8
Bronchitis	1					12
Other diseases of respiratory system						1
Ulcer of stomach & duodenum						3
Nephritis and nephrosis					1	2
Hyperplasia of prostate						3
Congenital malformations	3		1			
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	2				4	14
Motor vehicle accidents		1			1	1
All other accidents		1	1	4	2	5
Suicide					1	1
ALL CAUSES	8	4	3	9	63	212



# CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

The numbers, after correction, of cases of infectious disease notified in 1958, classified according to sex and age, are shown in the following table

Age Group	Dysentery		Encephalitis		Erysipelas		Food poisoning		Measles		Meningococcal infection		Pneumonia		Scarlet fever		Whooping cough	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0 - 1									1									
1 year									6	1								
2 yrs									9	10								
3 yrs									7	8					1	1		3
4 yrs			1						7	6					2			
5 - 9	1	1		1					27	24			1		3	6		2
10 - 14				1					1	1					1			
15 - 19									1									
20 - 24																		
25 - 34	1					1			2			1						1
35 - 44				1														
Age Unknown	1	1					1			1								
Total	3	2	1	3	1	1	1	-	61	51	1	-	1	-	6	8	-	6
Admitted to Hosp.	1	-	1	3	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-



The following table shows the number of cases of infectious diseases notified by medical practitioners in each month of 1958.

Month	Dysen- -tery	Enceph- -litis	Erysi- -pelas	Food poison -ing	Measles	Meningo- -coccal Infection	Pneu- -monia	Scar- -let fever	Whoop- -ing cough
Jan								3	
Feb			1					2	
Mar	3				2	1		2	
Apl								1	
May					3				
June		1			3			1	
July					27				2
Aug		2		1	63			2	2
Sept		1			8				2
Oct					1		1	1	
Nov								1	
Dec	2				5			1	
Total	5	4	1	1	112	1	1	14	6

The following diseases were brought to the notice of the Public Health Department by Head Teachers of Schools :

Chickenpox	...	100	Measles	...	4	Scarlet fever	...	5
German measles	...	2	Mumps	...	112	Whooping cough	...	1

The numbers of cases of infectious diseases notified in the past five years are as follows :

Disease	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958
Dysentery	-	2	2	2	5
Acute encephalitis	1	-	-	-	4
Erysipelas	-	-	1	-	1
Food poisoning	6	2	5	2	1
Measles	370	288	10	619	112
Meningococcal infection	-	-	-	-	1
Pneumonia	1	1	1	2	1
Puerperal pyrexia	-	1	1	-	-
Scarlet fever	12	16	11	22	14
Whooping cough	90	35	38	56	6

## Tuberculosis

Age Group	New cases notified				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pul		Pulmonary		Non-Pul	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 5 years				1		1		
5 - 14								
15 - 24	1	1						
25 - 44	3	1		1				
45 - 64	1	2			1			
65 and over	4	1			1	1		
Total	9	5	-	2	2	2	-	-

Number of cases who have moved into the District during 1958 ... 13  
 Number of cases who have moved to other Districts ... 5  
 Number of cases removed from Register as "Recovered" ... 9  
 Number of cases restored to Register ... 1

## Poliomyelitis Inoculation

During 1958 in the Sunbury-on-Thames Urban District approximately 5,000 children and young persons, expectant mothers and other priority groups received their first two injections against poliomyelitis. Third injections were commenced in October, and by the end of the year all those who had received two injections from the time the scheme started in May, 1956, up to the end of April, 1958, were called for their third injection.

## Certificates of Vaccination

132 International Certificates of Vaccination were brought to this office during the year and the signature of the doctor authenticated.

## Immunisation and Vaccination

I am indebted to the Area Medical Officer for the information tabulated overleaf regarding immunisations and vaccinations carried out in this District during 1958 :



## Immunisation and Vaccination

Age (see Note (a))	Number of children who completed a full course of primary immunisation		
	Diphtheria only	Combined diphtheria and whooping cough	Whooping cough only
Under 1 year	276	122	261
1 year	83	30	60
2 - 4	10	1	8
5 - 14	26	1	3
15 and over	-	-	-
Total	395	154	332

Age (see Note (a))	Number of children who received a secondary (reinforcing) injection (b)		
	Diphtheria only	Combined diphtheria and whooping cough	Whooping cough only
Under 1 year	-	-	-
1 year	-	-	-
2 - 4	19	3	-
5 - 14	453	10	-
15 and over	-	-	-
Total	472	13	-

Age (see Note (c))	Persons vaccinated or re-vaccinated	
	Vaccination	Re-vaccination
Under 1 year	392	-
1 year	33	-
2 - 4	15	-
5 - 14	13	5
15 and over	15	33
Total	468	38

NOTES: For primary immunisation a child should be classified according to its

- (a) age at date of final injection, and for reinforcing injections the age at date of that injection;
- (b) i.e. subsequently to primary immunisation at an earlier age;
- (c) age at date of vaccination or re-vaccination.



## M I S C E L L A N E O U S     I T E M S

### Dwelling Accommodation

The number of dwellings in the District in 1958 was 8,873. In addition 368 caravans were in use.

386 new houses were erected during the year.

### Water Supplies

The District is provided with a safe and adequate piped water supply by the Metropolitan Water Board, the West Surrey Water Company and the South West Suburban Water Company.

Standpipes supply about 474 dwellings comprised of caravans, semi-permanent riverside dwellings and a few permanent dwellings.

Recently occupiers on Thames Meadow have taken steps to introduce a piped supply to their dwellings. It is hoped that a piped supply will shortly be available for occupiers on the River Ash Estate.

At least seven shallow wells fitted with pumps are in use. These supply about 100 caravans and semi-permanent dwellings. Of 30 water samples taken from these sources 12 were found to be bacteriologically unsatisfactory. Consumers have been advised that it is essential to boil the water before it is used.

### Drainage and Sewerage

The greater part of the District is on main drainage but approximately 450 caravans and riverside dwellings are provided with chemical closets. Several hundred cesspools are in use.

Refuse is disposed of at the Charlton Destructor Plant. Occupants of neighbouring houses have complained of nuisance caused by the deposition of fine ash from the destructor chimney. The operators of the plant are considering practicable ways of abating the nuisance.

### Open Air Swimming Bath

This is in use during the summer months. It is emptied and filled twice weekly with unfiltered river water and then chlorinated manually. Tests are carried out to check the degree of chlorination. These methods have disadvantages which can only be overcome by a continuous chlorination/filtration plant, and arrangements for the installation of such a plant at the end of the 1959 season have been agreed to by the Council.

### Milk Supplies

Bottled heat treated (pasteurized or sterilized) milk only is sold in the District.

All milk provided in the schools has been bottled and pasteurized. Milk samples were found to be satisfactory.

### Food Hygiene Regulations

It was not necessary to institute legal proceedings under these Regulations.

### Laboratory Samples

43 samples were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory at Epsom.

#### Water (bacteriological examination):

Wells	...	...	30 samples
Mains supply (standpipes)			1 sample
<u>Stools</u> :	...	...	3 samples
<u>Milk</u> :	...	...	5 samples
<u>Ice Cream</u> :	...	...	4 samples

### Factories Acts, 1937 and 1948

The following tables show the work carried out by the Public Health Inspectors under these Acts.

#### 1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health:

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
Factories with mechanical power	86	78	11	-
Factories without mechanical power	4	-	-	-
TOTAL	90	78	11	-

#### 2. Cases in which defects were found:

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were		Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	
Sanitary Conveniences (Section 7)			
Insufficient	2	-	-
Unsuitable or defective	13	10	-
Not separate for sexes	1	1	-
Other offences	-	-	-
TOTAL	16	11	-

#### 3. Outworkers, Sections 110 and 111:

Number of outworkers	...	...	13 (Wearing Apparel)
Cases of default or prosecution under Section 110	...	...	-
Notices served under Section 111	...	...	-



Middlesex County Council Act, 1944.

Section 357 of the Act enables the Local Authority to grant licences in connection with Massage and Special Treatment.

Licences granted: 2      Licences refused: Nil

National Assistance Act, 1948, Section 47, and  
National Assistance (Amendment) Act, 1951.

An elderly woman was admitted to a Home on a Justice's Order granted under these Acts.

Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

The County Council is the Food and Drugs Authority for the whole of the County and I am indebted to the Chief Officer of the Public Control Department of the Middlesex County Council for the following information on samples procured and the inspections carried out in this District during 1958.

"Food and Drugs Act, 1955: I attach a list of samples of food and drugs procured under the above Act in the Urban District of Sunbury-on-Thames during the year 1958. With regard to the samples noted on that list as being unsatisfactory, I add the following comments :-

Milk: A bottle of milk was found to contain mould spores and hyphae; an official caution was sent to the bottlers of the milk.

Bread: A loaf of bread was found to contain portions of black lead pencil. Proceedings were instituted against the bakers of this loaf who were fined £10 and ordered to pay 5 guineas costs.

Merchandise Marks Acts, 1887 - 1953: The majority of the inspection work carried out under the provisions of the above Acts relates to ensuring that the requirements of the various Marking Orders made under the provisions of the Act of 1926, and which relate to the marking with an indication of origin of certain imported foodstuffs when exposed for sale or sold, are complied with.

Inspections were made at 58 separate premises of 473 displays of meat, apples, tomatoes and poultry. No infringements of the above Acts and Orders were detected.

Labelling of Food Order, 1953: This Order requires pre-packed food to be marked with the name and address, or with the registered trade mark, of the packer or labeller. It also requires such food to be labelled with its common or usual name (if any) and with the names of the ingredients of a compounded food. It also controls the manner in which the presence of vitamins and minerals is disclosed and prescribes specific labelling of certain foods.

A total of 128 articles of pre-packed food was examined at 40 premises to ascertain whether the above requirements were complied with; no serious infringements of this Order were detected.

False or Misleading Descriptions: As in previous years food advertisements and labels have been scrutinised for false or misleading statements and descriptions. Much of this scrutiny of food labels can be combined with inspection work under the Labelling of Food Order. No serious infringements were disclosed. Corrective action was secured in relation to descriptions applied to "milk block", Double Tea", an imitation cream powder, cakes filled with a mixture of butter and sugar, canned mixed vegetables, raspberry syrup, powdered soup mixes, medium red salmon, gorgonzola cheese spread and cheese spread.



Special Designated Milk: During the year 7 samples of designated milk were taken and submitted to test; all were certified as being satisfactory.

Safe Milk: In addition to the foregoing, 4 samples of raw milk were procured within your urban district and submitted to test for the presence of tubercle bacilli. None was found contaminated."

Samples procured within the Urban District  
of Sunbury-on-Thames during the year 1958.

<u>Article</u>		<u>Total Samples Procured</u>		<u>Unsatisfactory</u>
Milk (various)	...	29	...	1
Arrowroot	...	3	...	-
Butter	...	3	...	-
Cooked Meat	...	3	...	-
Cream	...	5	...	-
Drugs	...	5	...	-
Fish and Fish Products		4	...	-
Fruit (Fresh and Canned)		6	...	-
Fruit Juice	...	3	...	-
Ice Cream	...	6	...	-
Meat and Meat Products		2	...	-
Preserves	...	2	...	-
Spirits	...	3	...	-
Vegetables (Canned)	...	3	...	-
Vinegar	...	6	...	-
Miscellaneous	...	12	...	1 (Bread)
		<u>95</u>		<u>2</u>

\*\*\*\*\*

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT

Public Health Department,  
Council Offices,  
Sunbury-on-Thames.

July, 1959

To the Chairman and Members of the Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report relating to work carried out during 1958.

The work has not been concentrated upon any one particular aspect but has embraced a wide field of public health duties including meat inspection, inspection of food premises, unfit houses, factories and gravel pits where infilling is taking place.

The number of animals killed at local slaughterhouses was the highest recorded and I am able to report that one hundred per cent inspection has again been achieved.

Further progress was made to reduce the number of unfit houses in the area and fourteen dwellings were represented as being unsuitable for habitation. It is regretted however that suitable accommodation still remains to be provided for the occupants of the majority of these houses and houses represented in the two previous years.

There is little evidence that the decay of older houses has been arrested by use of the Rent Act, 1957, and one looks hopefully forward to the House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959, to succeed, where the previous improvement grant scheme has failed, in securing the improvement and modernisation of amenities in this type of property, particularly tenanted houses.

This report gives me the opportunity to record my appreciation of the co-operation and help given to me by all members of the staff during the year.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

C. W. WOOD.

Chief Public Health Inspector.

## COMPLAINTS RECEIVED

Condition of premises	...	...	47
Choked or defective drains	...	...	51
Defective dustbins	...	...	11
Collection of refuse	...	...	7
Moveable dwellings	...	...	5
Offensive deposits	...	...	13
Rats and mice	...	...	204
Bugs, fleas, etc.	...	...	7
Other insects	...	...	46
Noise, smoke and smell	...	...	55
Keeping of animals	...	...	25
Unsound food	...	...	10
Miscellaneous	...	...	19
			<hr/>
			500
			<hr/>

## SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS

### Public Health Act, 1936:

(a) primary inspections	...	...	122
(b) re-inspections	...	...	485

### Housing Acts:

(a) primary inspections	...	...	50
(b) re-inspections	...	...	74

Housing enquiries (applications, etc.)	...	...	2
Factories (mechanical power)	...	...	78
Outworkers' premises	...	...	10
Licensed premises	...	...	1
Places of public entertainment	...	...	18
Slaughterhouses	...	...	18
Knackers yards	...	...	4
Shops - Shops Act	...	...	122
Food shops	...	...	115
Bakehouses	...	...	3
Food preparing premises	...	...	82
Ice cream premises	...	...	55
Hawkers and hawkers' premises	...	...	18
Food inspection - meat	...	...	1,481
- other foods	...	...	13
Sampling - milk	...	...	5
- ice cream	...	...	4
- water	...	...	35
Water supplies	...	...	11
Moveable dwellings	...	...	41
Deposits of refuse	...	...	53
Tips	...	...	193
Dustbins	...	...	55
Keeping of animals	...	...	83



Rodent control ...	...	...	1,504
Vermin and other pests	...	...	111
Smoke abatement ...	...	...	131
Drainage ...	...	...	232
Infectious diseases	...	...	153
Rivers, ditches and watercourses		...	27
Pet Animals Act ...	...	...	3
Petroleum Acts ...	...	...	55
Rent Act, 1957 ...	...	...	165
National Assistance Act	...	...	3
Appointments with owners or agents		...	19
Miscellaneous ...	...	...	90
			<hr/>
			5,724
			<hr/>

#### NOTICES SERVED

	<u>Informal</u>	<u>Formal</u>
Public Health and Housing Acts	75	19
Factories Act, 1937 ...	11	-
Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955	30	-
Water Act, 1945 ...	1	-

#### HOUSING STATISTICS

1. Number of new houses built during 1958:
  - (a) by private enterprise ... 386
  - (b) by local authority ... Nil
2. (a) Number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects under Public Health or Housing Acts 172
  - (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... 731
3. (a) Number of dwellinghouses found to be unfit for human habitation ... 14
  - (b) Number of dwellinghouses where defects were found to exist (excluding those referred to under preceding heading) ... 75
4. Number of dwellinghouses where defects were remedied as the result of informal action ... 52

#### Action under Statutory Powers during the year

5. Proceedings under Section 9 of the Housing Act, 1957:
  - (a) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs -

- (b) Number of dwellinghouses which were rendered fit after service of formal notice
  - (i) by owners ... .. -
  - (ii) by local authority in default of owners -
- 6. Proceedings under Public Health Act, 1936:
  - (a) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ... .. 15
  - (b) Number of dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notice 17
- 7. Proceedings under sections 16 and 17 of the Housing Act, 1957:
  - (a) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made or Undertakings given ... .. 12
  - (b) Number of dwellinghouses demolished ... 1
- 8. Proceedings under Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953:
  - (a) Number of Closing Orders made under Section 10 -
  - (b) Number of dwellinghouses closed ... -

#### RENT ACT, 1957

The position at 31st December relative to Certificates of Disrepair is shown in the following table:

			<u>1958</u>	<u>Total</u>
Applications received for Certificates of Disrepair	...	...	15	31
Undertakings to carry out repairs given by landlords	...	...	11	20
Certificates of Disrepair issued		...	7	11
Applications received for cancellation of Certificates of Disrepair	...	...	5	8
Certificates of Disrepair cancelled		...	5	7

Enquiries by persons affected by the Rent Act have been dealt with in the Public Health Department and information has been given to landlords and tenants as necessary. Certain forms for use in connection with the Act have been made available for purchase in the Treasurer's Department.

#### PETROLEUM (REGULATION) ACTS

The Council is responsible for the annual licensing of premises at which petroleum (including petroleum mixtures) is stored and 45 licences were issued during the year. Recent recommendations of the Home Office relating to the principles of construction and licensing conditions have been adopted by the Council.



## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Food Premises: The following table shows the number and type of food premises in the District :-

Butchers	...	...	20
Slaughterhouses	...	...	3
Restaurants and Cafes	...	...	26
Factory Canteens	...	...	17
School Kitchens	...	...	11
Grocers and 'General Stores'	...	...	55
Bakers and Confectioners	...	...	7
Wet and Fried Fish Shops	...	...	7
Greengrocers	...	...	14
Licensed Premises	...	...	34
Sweets and Tobacco	...	...	30
Milk Depots	...	...	2
Warehouses	...	...	2
Confectionery Manufacturers	...	...	1
Soft Drink Manufacturers	...	...	1
			<u>230</u>

Attention has continued to be given to the inspection of food shops and an improvement in the standard of hygiene has been secured in many instances. No prosecutions under the Food Hygiene Regulations were found to be necessary.

Premises registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955:

(a) Ice cream manufacture	...	-
(b) Storage and sale of ice cream	67	
(c) Manufacture of sausages and preserved food	...	18

Licences issued under the Milk (Special Designation)(Pasteurised and Sterilised) Regulations, 1949, and the Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949:

	<u>Pasteurised</u>	<u>Sterilised</u>	<u>Tuberculin Tested</u>
Dealers	5	13	5
Supplementary	2	2	3

### Hawkers of Food

Traders' vehicles operating in the area are frequently inspected by the Public Health Inspectors. In the summer season, and particularly at weekends, additional itinerant ice cream vendors appear in the district and it is often very difficult to examine each vehicle.

### Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations:

67 premises are registered for the storage and sale of ice cream.

There are no manufacturers of ice cream in the district and most traders sell only prepacked ice cream of well-known firms.

Samples of ice cream are periodically submitted for bacteriological examination.



## Slaughterhouses and Meat Inspection:

The important public health function of meat inspection has occupied a high proportion of your Inspectors' time during the year. The hours of slaughter remain erratic and evening and weekend inspections continue to be necessary to ensure complete examination of all meat.

The Slaughterhouses Act, 1958, came into force on 1st August, 1958. The main purposes of the Act are to

provide for new and strict minimum standards for the construction and equipment of slaughterhouses and to preserve the existing system of licensing of private slaughterhouses and provision of public abbatoirs.

New slaughterhouses must comply with the prescribed standards and existing slaughterhouses are given a period of time during which the premises must be brought up to the required standard.

Local authorities are required to review and report on (a) the existing and probable future requirements of their district for slaughtering facilities and (b) the facilities which are, or are likely to become, available to meet those requirements.

The Council have been required to revoke their earlier resolution to restrict further slaughterhouse licences in the district.

Two slaughterhouses continue to be used as Deadweight Certification Centres for pigs in connection with the Government Fatstock Guarantee Scheme.

7,505 pigs were certified by your Inspectors as being eligible for guarantee payment and the Council received £201 for undertaking this service on behalf of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

An Exchequer grant of £200 towards the Council's cost of meat inspection for the twelve months ended 31st March, 1959, was made.

Disposal of condemned food is achieved mainly by sale for processing into fertilizers, and some is sold to pet food traders.

Other food condemned (i.e. at local shops) is disposed of by incineration at the Council's Refuse Destructor.

Details of animals slaughtered and meat condemned are shown on page No. 25.

## SHOPS ACT

It was necessary during the year to draw the attention of a number of shopkeepers to restrictions on Sunday Trading.

The contraventions occur mainly among the small 'general store' businesses with a combination of trades, the occupier often being very perplexed as to what he is, or is not, permitted to sell on a Sunday.

Revision of the Shops Act is long overdue, particularly relating to Sunday Trading which is out of tune with present-day public custom.

The public take unkindly to being refused butter, sugar or tea when they run out on Sunday but may be offered greengrocery, fruit or bread which are among the permitted sales. Some shopkeepers and public naturally resent the intervention of the Shops Inspector and it is dubious as to whom the Act seeks to benefit.

## PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

Rodent Control: Treatment is provided free for domestic premises but a charge is made for work undertaken at business premises.

One Rodent Operative is employed and the following summary indicates the work carried out.

Complaints received	..	..	204
Domestic premises treated	..	..	210
Business premises treated	..	..	31
Visits made by Rodent Operative	..	..	1,421
Visits made by Public Health Inspectors	..	..	83

### Other Pests:

Your operative also undertakes the destruction of wasps nests where a nuisance is caused and where it is practicable for the nest to be destroyed. A charge of 10s. 6d is made for the service.

### Disinfections and Disinfestations:

Disinfections	- Premises	..	1
	- Clothing	..	1
	- Books	..	10
Disinfestations	- Premises	..	10

## REFUSE DUMPS

Consents to deposit refuse in existing or disused gravel pits were given in respect of eight pits during the year.

The consents are given under the Middlesex County Council Act, 1944, for a period of twelve months and are reviewed at the end of each year. Dissatisfaction as to the type of materials being deposited at the tips was expressed by the Council during the year and conditions attached to consents were modified and standardized at the time of review so as to exclude the dumping of undesirable materials.

\*\*\*\*\*



Details of animals slaughtered,  
inspected and carcasses condemned.

	Cattle excl. Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	257	461	410	2,060	27,689	58
Number inspected	257	461	410	2,060	27,689	58
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis &amp; Cysticerci</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	1	5	1	1	10	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	76	180	4	105	3,032	24
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than tub- erculosis & cysticerci	29.96	40.13	1.22	5.14	10.98	41.38
<u>Tuberculosis</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	1	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	6	22	-	-	496	-
Percentage of number inspected affected with tuberculosis	2.33	4.99	-	-	1.79	-
<u>Cysticercosis</u>						
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	3	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to refrigeration treatment	3	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	1	-	-	-	-	-

Approximately  $9\frac{3}{4}$  tons of meat was condemned  
as being unfit for human consumption.









